Quick Reference Guide for eFile Chapter 7 and 13 Voluntary Petition Procedures

Overview Pages 1-2 F

- Requirements for submitting an electronic petition
- Files that are required when submitting an electronic petition:
 - (1) A Portable Document Format (PDF) file containing either a signed Electronic Filing Declaration of Debtor(s) when the debtor type is "individual(s)" or an Electronic Filing Declaration of Authorized Signatory of Debtor, when the debtor type is "corporation" or "partnership" and Electronic Filing Declaration of Attorney for Debtor(s);
 - (2) A PDF file containing the schedules, statements, and documents to be included in the filing;
 - (3) The Master Mailing List in Text ASCII-readable format.

NOTE: The PDF files must be created using Adobe Acrobat version 4.0 or 5.0 only. If you have Adobe Acrobat version 6.0 (or higher), you will need to reduce the file size compatible with 5.0 by following the steps below.

- Click on File and select Reduce File Size → Compatible with 5.0.
- · Click on **OK** and save the document.

<u>Creditor File (Master Mailing List)</u>

- · Preparation of the Creditor File
- Address Format
 - Domestic may include up to 4 lines and the city, state, and zip code must be on the last line.

Examples:

- 1. ABC Creditor 123 N. Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90003
- 2. ABC Creditor Payment Processing 123 N. Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90003
- (2) **International** may include up to 5 lines and the country **must** be on the last line.

Examples:

- Alex Millar
 Sheldon Road
 Edmonton N.18, London
 England
- 2. Diane York Limited 10 Regent Street London EC9Y 7SY Great Britain

Accessing the Electronic Petition Form

Page 4

Pages 2-3

From the *eFile* Main Menu, select *Voluntary Petition Chapter* 7 or *Voluntary Petition Chapter* 13 from the drop-down Filing Options menu. The electronic Voluntary Petition will appear on the screen.



Page 1 Tab (Chapter 7 ONLY)

Pages 4-5, Step 2

- Choose one of the following three options under **Processing Instructions**:

 a. Single petition (not to be included in batch filing): Select this option if you
- are only filing one petition.
- b. <u>Petition to be included in batch filing</u>: Select this option for each petition submitted in a batch except the last petition.
- c. <u>Last petition in batch filing</u>: Select this option to notify eFile that you have completed a batch. If you complete a batch without selecting this option, you need to contact the eFile Support Center to notify them that your batch is complete.



Page 1 Tab

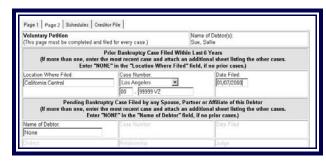
Pages 5-7, Steps 3-6

- Click on Add/Edit to enter the debtor's name.
- Click on Add/Edit to enter other names used by the debtor (if any).
- Click on **SSN** to enter the debtor's Social Security number, or click on **Tax I.D.** to enter the debtor's Tax Identification number.
- Follow the preceding steps to enter joint debtor information, if applicable.
- Enter the street address, city, zip code, and county of residence.
- · Make changes to the mailing address, if necessary.
- · Check the applicable boxes for any remaining fields.
- Click on Continue to go to the next tab.

Page 2 Tab

Pages 9-10, Steps 17-22

- For Prior Bankruptcy Case, enter the most recently filed prior case followed by the judge's initials or "NONE" under Location Where Filed if no prior case.
- Enter Pending Bankruptcy Case information and include the judge's initials after the case number, or enter "NONE" under Name of Debtor.



- Check the applicable boxes to affix "/s/," followed by the signer's name to the petition.
- · Check the applicable box regarding Exhibit C.
- Verify the information on the petition, make corrections and click on *Print Petition for Signature* to print the petition and an *Electronic Filing Declaration of Debtor(s)* and *Electronic Filing Declaration of Attorney for Debtor(s)*.
- · Click on Save Draft & Exit.

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Preparing the Schedules PDF File

Page 10, Steps 23-26

Pages 11-12, Steps 32-35

- Have the debtor(s) review and sign a true and correct hard copy of the
 petition, schedules, if filing under chapter 13, the plan, and any applicable
 documents being filed electronically.
- documents being filed electronically.

 Type "/s/," followed by the signer's name, on the schedules and statements

being filed electronically in each place where the hard copy was signed.

Order of Documents for the Schedules PDF File
The documents in your Schedules PDF file must be placed in the order listed on pages 14-16 and scanned and saved as a single PDF file.

Pages 14-16

<u>Preparing the Declarations PDF File</u> Page 11, Steps 27-28

- Have the debtor(s) sign the *Electronic Filing Declaration of Debtor(s)* **or** the *Electronic Filing Declaration of Authorized Signatory of Debtor*, as applicable.
- Sign the Electronic Filing Declaration of Attorney for Debtor(s).
- Scan and save the Declarations as a single PDF file which should consist of only one page.
- The Debtor(s) or the authorized signatory of debtor must sign the applicable Electronic Filing Declaration, or the petition will be rejected.





Schedules Tab

Page 11, Steps 29-31

Uploading the Declarations PDF File:

- · Return to the petition, and click on the Schedules Tab.
- Click on Browse to locate the PDF file of the Electronic Filing Declaration of Debtor(s) or the Electronic Filing Declaration of Authorized Signatory of Debtor, as applicable, and Electronic Filing Declaration of Attorney for Debtor(s).
- Verify that the file you selected contains the Declaration that matches the debtor(s) on the petition.
- Close the PDF file, and click on *Continue* to upload the file.



Schedules Tab Schedules PDF Document Description form:

• Click in each corresponding box to enter the start page numbers of the documents in the PDF file.

- **Example 1:** Enter **1** if the first page of the PDF file is the *Notice of Available Chapters*.
- **Example 2:** Enter **7** as the start page number of *Schedule C*, if *Schedule B* contains three pages and starts on page 4.
- The total number of pages in the PDF file **must match** the total number of pages listed on the Document Description form.

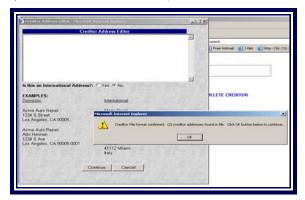


- Click on Browse to locate the Schedules PDF file on your computer.
- · Verify that the correct PDF file was selected.
- Close the PDF file, and click on *Continue* to upload the file.
- Click on Continue to go to the next tab.

Creditor File Tab

Pages 13-14, Steps 36-41

- Click on **Browse** to locate the .TXT Creditor file on your computer.
- Click on Continue to upload the file.
- Click on Continue to allow the system to confirm that the Creditor File is in the correct format.
- Fix any formatting errors displayed on the screen and continue.
- Click on **OK** and a list of the creditors in the text file will appear.
- · Verify that the list is correct and complete.



- Click on Submit Petition to submit the petition for filing. (It may take a few minutes to complete the submission process.)
- Print and save the confirmation message that displays once the process is complete.
- You will receive a confirmation e-mail with a link to the conformed PDF copy
 of the electronically filed petition after the petition has been processed and
 accepted for filing by the eFile Administrator.